## **UTILITIES DIVISION**[199]

#### **Notice of Intended Action**

## Proposing rule making related to universal service and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Utilities Board hereby proposes to amend Chapter 39, "Universal Service," Iowa Administrative Code.

## Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 474.5 and 476.2.

## State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 17A.4, 474.5, 476.2, 476.15 and 476.102 and 47 U.S.C. Section 214(e).

### Purpose and Summary

The Board is conducting a comprehensive review of its administrative rules in accordance with Iowa Code section 17A.7(2). The purpose of this review is to identify and update or eliminate rules that are outdated or inconsistent with statutes and other administrative rules.

The Board issued an order commencing rule making on March 27, 2018. The order is available on the Board's electronic filing system, efs.iowa.gov, under Docket No. RMU-2016-0011.

## Fiscal Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, the Board tentatively concludes that the amendments will have no effect on the expenditure of public moneys within the state of Iowa.

#### Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, the Board tentatively concludes that the amendments will not have a detrimental effect on employment in Iowa.

#### Waivers

Chapter-specific waiver provisions are unnecessary since any person may apply for waiver of any Board rule under rule 199—1.3(17A,474,476).

## Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 15, 2018. Comments should be directed to:

Iowa Utilities Board

Electronic Filing System (EFS) at efs.iowa.gov

Phone: 515.725.7337

Email: efshelpdesk@iub.iowa.gov

## Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

June 20, 2018 9 a.m. to 12 noon Utilities Board Hearing Room 1375 East Court Avenue Des Moines, Iowa

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rule making.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Board and advise of specific needs.

#### Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 199—39.2(476) as follows:

**199—39.2(476) Definition of terms.** For the purposes of the board's implementation of federal universal service fund requirements, the following definitions apply. Whenever a reference in this chapter is made to provisions found in 47 CFR Part 36, 51 or 54, that reference includes any amendment through April 8, 2015 [effective date of these amendments].

"Broadband service" means the broadband Internet access service designated by the Federal Communications Commission at 47 CFR § 54.101 as eligible for support by the federal universal service support mechanisms. Eligible broadband Internet access services must provide the capability to transmit data and receive data by wire or radio from all or substantially all Internet endpoints, including any capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation of the communications service, but excluding dial-up service.

"Competitive eligible telecommunications carrier" means a carrier that meets the definition of an "eligible telecommunications carrier" below and does not meet the definition of an "incumbent local exchange carrier" in 47 CFR § 51.5.

"Connect America fund" or "CAF" means the federal universal service fund, as reformed by the Federal Communications Commission, to phase down and replace support previously provided through high-cost mechanisms, as referenced in 47 CFR §§ 54.304 and 54.312.

"Eligible telecommunications carrier" or "eligible carrier" means a carrier designated by the board as eligible to receive universal service support pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e).

"Facilities" means any physical components of the telecommunications network that are used in the transmission or routing of the services designated for universal service fund support.

"Federal poverty guidelines" means the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. § 9902(2).

"High-cost program" means the component of the federal universal service fund that includes the following support mechanisms: high-cost loop support, safety net support, safety valve support, local switching support, interstate common line support, high-cost model support, interstate access support, and the connect America fund, which includes funding to support and advance networks that provide voice and broadband services, both fixed and mobile.

"High-cost support" means those support mechanisms in existence as of October 1, 2011, specifically, high-cost loop support, safety net additive support and safety valve support provided pursuant to 47 CFR Part 36, Subpart F; local switching support pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.301; forward-looking support pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.309; interstate access support pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.309.

54.800 through 54.809; interstate common line support pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 54.901 through 54.904; support provided pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 51.915, 51.917, and 54.304; support provided to competitive eligible telecommunications carriers as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.307(e); connect America fund support provided pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.312; and mobility fund support provided pursuant to 47 CFR Part 54, Subpart L; and Rural Broadband Experiment support.

"Lifeline-only ETC" means a telecommunications carrier that seeks limited designation as an ETC only to participate in the Lifeline program.

"Lifeline program" means the federal universal service program providing support for low-income consumers that is defined in 47 CFR § 54.401 to mean a nontransferable retail service offering (1) for which qualifying low-income consumers pay reduced charges as a result of application of the Lifeline support amount described in 47 CFR § 54.403, and (2) which provides qualifying low-income consumers with voice telephony service as defined in 47 CFR § 54.101(a) or broadband Internet access service as defined in 47 CFR § 54.400.

"Mobility fund" means the wireless component of the connect America fund which provides support for the extension of mobile broadband networks in otherwise unserved areas.

"National Lifeline accountability database" means the electronic system, with associated functions, processes, policies and procedures, to facilitate the detection and elimination of duplicative support, as directed by the Federal Communications Commission and as defined in 47 CFR § 54.400.

"National Lifeline eligibility verifier," as defined in 47 CFR § 54.400(o), means the electronic and manual system that facilitates the determination of consumer eligibility for the Lifeline program.

"Qualifying low-income consumer" means a consumer who meets the qualifications for Lifeline as specified in 47 CFR § 54.409.

"Services designated for support" means voice telephony services and broadband service.

"Tribal Link Up" means an assistance program for eligible residents of tribal lands seeking telecommunications service from a telecommunications carrier that is receiving high-cost support on tribal lands, that provides a reduction of the customary charge for commencing telecommunications service for a single telecommunications connection at a subscriber's principal place of residence and a deferred schedule of payments of the customary charge for commencing telecommunications service as defined in 47 CFR § 54.413(a).

"Voice telephony service" means the service designated by the Federal Communications Commission at 47 CFR § 54.101 as eligible for support by the federal universal service support mechanisms. "Voice telephony service" is service which provides:

- 1. Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent;
- 2. Minutes of use for local service at no additional charge to end users;
- 3. Access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems; and
- 4. Toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers as provided in 47 CFR Part 54, Subpart E.

## ITEM 2. Amend paragraph **39.3(2)"d"** as follows:

d. An explanation of how the carrier will provide voice telephony service and broadband service as defined in 199—39.2(476) and 47 CFR § 54.101.

## ITEM 3. Amend paragraph **39.3(2)"i"** as follows:

i. A five-year plan that describes with specificity proposed improvements or upgrades to the applicant's network throughout its proposed service area An affirmative statement that the applicant will use the support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities to deploy, improve, and support services to consumers in the applicant's designated service area. Each applicant shall estimate the area and population that will be served as a result of the improvements. Applicants seeking designation only for purposes of receiving support from the Lifeline program are not required to submit a network improvement plan.

### ITEM 4. Amend subparagraph 39.3(2)"1"(9) as follows:

- (9) Promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies. Inquiries for information or complaints to a wireless ETC shall be resolved promptly and courteously. If a wireless ETC cannot resolve a dispute with the applicant or customer, the wireless ETC shall inform the applicant or customer of the right to file a complaint with the board. The wireless ETC shall provide the following board address and toll-free telephone number: Iowa Utilities Board, Customer Service, 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0069; 1-877-565-4450. When the board receives a complaint, the procedures set out in 199—Chapter 6, "Complaint Procedures," shall be followed to enforce the minimum consumer protection standards in paragraph 39.3(2) "I." When the board receives a complaint alleging the addition or deletion of a product or service for which a separate charge is made to a customer account without the verified consent of the customer, the complaint shall be processed by the board pursuant to 199—Chapter 6. In any complaint proceeding pursuant to this subparagraph, if the wireless ETC asserts that the complainant is located in an area where the wireless ETC is not designated as an ETC, the wireless ETC must submit evidence in support of its assertion.
  - ITEM 5. Rescind subrule 39.3(3) and adopt the following **new** subrule in lieu thereof:
- **39.3(3)** Amendments, assignments and transfers of control. Except as otherwise provided in this subrule, a carrier's ETC designation may be amended or assigned, or control of such designation may be transferred by the transfer of control of the carrier, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, only upon application to and prior approval by the board.
- a. Assignment. For purposes of this subrule, an assignment of a designation is a transaction in which a board-issued ETC designation is assigned from one carrier to another carrier. Following an assignment, the designation is held by a carrier other than the carrier to which it was originally granted.
- b. Transfers of control. For purposes of this subrule, a transfer of control is a transaction in which a board-issued designation remains held by the same carrier, but there is a change in the individuals or entities that control the carrier. A change from less than 50 percent ownership to 50 percent or more ownership shall always be considered a transfer of control. A change from 50 percent or more ownership to less than 50 percent ownership shall always be considered a transfer of control. In all other situations, whether the interest being transferred is controlling must be determined on a case-by-case basis. The factors relevant to a determination of control in addition to equity ownership include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (1) Power to constitute or appoint more than 50 percent of the board of directors or partnership management committee;
- (2) Authority to appoint, promote, demote and fire senior executives who control the day-to-day activities of the carrier;
  - (3) Ability to play an integral role in major management decisions of the carrier;
  - (4) Authority to pay financial obligations, including expenses arising out of operations;
  - (5) Ability to receive moneys and profits from the carrier's operations; and
  - (6) Unfettered use of all of the carrier's facilities and equipment.
- c. Pro forma assignments and transfers of control. Assignments or transfers of control that do not result in a change in the actual controlling party are considered nonsubstantial or pro forma. If a transaction is one of the types listed below, the transaction is presumptively pro forma and prior board approval need not be sought:
- (1) Assignment from an individual or individuals to an entity owned and controlled by such individuals without any substantial change in their relative interests;
- (2) Assignment from an entity to its individual equity holders without effecting any substantial change in the disposition of their interests;
- (3) Assignment or transfer by which certain equity holders retire and the interest transferred is not a controlling one;
- (4) Entity reorganization that involves no substantial change in the beneficial ownership of the carrier (including reincorporation or reorganization in a different jurisdiction or change in form of the business entity);

- (5) Assignment or transfer from a carrier to a wholly owned direct or indirect subsidiary thereof or vice versa, or where there is an assignment from a carrier to an entity owned or controlled by the same equity holders without substantial change in their interests; or
  - (6) Assignment of less than a controlling interest in a carrier.
- d. Applications for substantial transactions. In the case of an assignment or transfer of control of board-designated ETC that is not pro forma, the parties to such transaction must file a joint application with the board prior to consummation of the proposed assignment or transfer of control. The application shall include the following information:
- (1) A brief narrative of the means by which the proposed transfer or assignment will take place. This narrative should include a statement concerning how the transaction will be classified for the purposes of any filings required to be made by the parties with the Universal Service Administrative Company.
- (2) Identification of each applicant, including the legal name and state or other governmental authority under the laws of which each entity applicant is incorporated or organized.
- (3) The name, title, mailing address, telephone number and email contact information for each applicant.
- (4) The name, title, mailing address, telephone number and email contact information for an application contact point, such as an executive officer, legal counsel or regulatory consultant, to whom correspondence concerning the application should be addressed.
- (5) A statement identifying the date on which the applicants are asking for the transfer of the ETC designation to be effective. Where the timing of a transaction is dependent on facts objectively ascertainable outside of the filing (i.e., regulatory, lender or other third-party approval), the parties should include a statement concerning the manner in which such facts will operate on the effective date or other terms of the transaction.
- (6) A certification as to whether the assignee/transferee is a board-designated ETC. If the assignee/transferee is not a board-designated ETC, the assignee/transferee shall separately file with the board an application for designation as an ETC as provided in subrule 39.3(2). If the assignee/transferee is a board-designated ETC, the joint application shall include a certification from the assignee/transferee that (a) the assignee/transferee is a board-designated ETC in good standing and (b) the assignee/transferee will comply with the state and federal requirements for eligibility as an ETC, including the use of support to provide designated services within the assigned or transferred service area.
- (7) Whether as part of the transaction, the assignor/transferor is requesting to relinquish its ETC status in whole or in part. If the assignor/transferor is requesting to relinquish its ETC status, the joint application shall be deemed to be the assignor/transferor's request for relinquishment of ETC designation under 199—39.8(476); provided that such relinquishment shall be conditioned on consummation of the transaction described in the application. If the assignor/transferor is for any reason seeking the unconditional relinquishment of its ETC status, such request should be filed separately under 199—39.8(476).
- e. Board approval. Where an assignment or transfer of control involves a transferee/assignee which is already a board-designated ETC, such application shall be granted by the board 30 days after the date the complete application seeking approval of the assignment or transfer of control is accepted for filing, unless the board, for good cause, dockets the application for further investigation. Where an assignment or transfer of control involves a transferee/assignee which is not already a board-designated ETC, such application shall be granted by the board at the same time as the board grants the assignee/transferee's application for ETC designation in accordance with the timelines and procedures set forth in subrule 39.3(2).
- f. Notification of pro forma transactions. In the case of a pro forma assignment or transfer of control, the designated ETC is not required to seek prior board approval. Instead, a pro forma assignee or a carrier that is subject to a pro forma transfer of control must file a notification with the board no later than 30 days after the assignment or transfer is completed. The notification must contain the following:
  - (1) The information requested in subparagraphs 39.3(3) "d"(1) to (4) for the transferee/assignee.

- (2) A certification that the transfer of control or assignment was pro forma and that, together with all previous pro forma transactions, the transfer of control or assignment does not result in a change in the actual control of the carrier.
- (3) A certification from the assignee/transferee that the assignee/transferee will comply with the state and federal requirements for eligibility as an ETC, including the use of support to provide designated services within the assigned or transferred service area.
- g. Involuntary assignments or transfers of control. In the case of an involuntary assignment or transfer of control to a bankruptcy trustee appointed under involuntary bankruptcy; to an independent receiver appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction in a foreclosure action; or in the case of death or legal disability, to a person or entity legally qualified to succeed the deceased or disabled person under the laws of the place having jurisdiction over the estate involved; the applicant must make the appropriate filing no later than 30 days after the event causing the involuntary assignment or transfer of control.
- h. Notification of consummation. An assignee or transferee must notify the board no later than 30 days after either consummation of the proposed assignment or transfer of control or a decision not to consummate the proposed assignment or transfer of control. The notification shall identify the docket number(s) under which the authorization of the assignment or transfer of control was granted.
- *i.* Amendments other than transactions. Where a carrier that has been designated by the board as an ETC intends to serve as an ETC in a new service area for the purpose of receiving support from the CAF Phase II auction or for other similar purposes, the carrier shall file a notice of expansion 30 days in advance of the expansion and shall certify that the carrier intends to amend its designation to serve as an ETC in the expanded service area.
  - ITEM 6. Amend rule 199—39.6(476) as follows:

# 199—39.6(476) Universal service support for low-income consumers (Lifeline program and Tribal Link Up program).

**39.6(1)** Carrier obligation to offer Lifeline. Pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.405, which specifies the Lifeline obligations of eligible telecommunications carriers, all eligible telecommunications carriers must make available Lifeline service, as defined in 47 CFR § 54.401, to qualifying low-income consumers, defined as consumers who meet the qualifications for Lifeline as specified in 47 CFR § 54.409. Eligible telecommunications carriers must comply with the minimum service standards specified in 47 CFR § 54.408.

**39.6(2)** No change.

- 39.6(3) Consumer qualification for Lifeline. To constitute a qualifying low-income consumer, a consumer's household income as defined in 47 CFR § 54.400(f) and (h) must be at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for a household of that size or such percentage as may be determined by the FCC or the consumer, one or more of the consumer's dependents, or the consumer's household must participate in one of the following federal assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Supplemental Security Income; Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8); Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program; National School Lunch Program's free lunch program; or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. A consumer who lives on tribal lands is eligible for Lifeline service as a qualifying low-income consumer if the consumer meets the qualifications for Lifeline specified in 47 CFR § 54,409(a) or if the consumer, one or more of the consumer's dependents. or the consumer's household participates in one of the following tribal-specific federal assistance programs specified in 47 CFR § 54.409(b): Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance; tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Head Start (only those households meeting its income qualifying standard); or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. To qualify for Lifeline, a consumer must meet the qualifications for Lifeline as specified in 47 CFR § 54.409. A consumer may only receive one Lifeline service from one telephone provider per household.
- 39.6(4) Determination of subscriber eligibility. Until the national Lifeline eligibility verifier becomes responsible for the initial determination of Iowa consumers' eligibility for Lifeline assistance, Iowa eligible telecommunications carriers are responsible for establishing consumer eligibility for Lifeline assistance. Iowa eligible telecommunications carriers shall ensure that their Lifeline

subscribers are eligible to receive Lifeline services in accordance with 47 CFR § 54.410. Eligible telecommunications carriers shall:

- a. Implement policies and procedures for ensuring that their Lifeline subscribers are eligible to receive Lifeline services;
- b. Confirm a subscriber's income-based or program-based eligibility according to 47 CFR § 54.410(b) or (c);
- c. Provide prospective subscribers Lifeline certification forms that comply with 47 CFR § 54.410(d); and
- d. Recertify all subscribers' Lifeline eligibility annually and at 90-day intervals (where subscribers have provided a temporary address) in accordance with 47 CFR § 54.410(f) and (g).

39.6(5) to 39.6(7) No change.

ITEM 7. Amend rule 199—39.7(476) as follows:

## 199—39.7(476) Schedule of filings.

**39.7(1)** Annual Lifeline compliance certifications.

- a. No change.
- b. Filing instructions. FCC Form 555 shall be filed using the board's electronic filing system in accordance with 199—Chapter 14, unless the board directs otherwise by order issued in advance of the filing deadline. The filing shall be titled "Annual Lifeline Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification," with a reference to the year for which the certification is filed. The document title for the FCC form shall be "FCC Form 555 Filing." The board's records and information center will assign each filing an FLR docket number, signifying "Federal Lifeline Report." The annual Lifeline compliance certifications are not subject to protection from public disclosure.
- **39.7(2)** Annual eligible recovery certifications. On or before the date on which carriers file their access tariffs with the FCC, each price cap and rate-of-return carrier designated by the board as an eligible telecommunications carrier pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) shall file with the board certifications of eligible recovery amounts as follows, as required by 47 CFR § 54.304(c) and (d).
  - a. and b. No change.
- c. Filing instructions. The annual eligible recovery certifications shall be filed using the board's electronic filing system in accordance with 199—Chapter 14, unless the board directs otherwise by order issued in advance of the filing deadline. The filing shall be titled "Connect America Fund Intercarrier Compensation Recovery and Certification," with a reference to the year for which the certification is filed. The document title for the FCC form shall be "Annual Reporting Requirements for Section 54.304." The board's records and information center will assign each filing an "ETR" docket number, signifying "Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Report."
  - d. No change.

**39.7(3)** Annual reporting requirements.

- a. and b. No change.
- c. Annual certifications from carriers seeking to continue to receive high-cost support. Any carrier seeking to continue to receive federal high-cost universal service support shall file with the board no later than July 1 of each year an affidavit titled "Certification of [Company Name]." The company name shall be the name used on the carrier's initial application for ETC designation and its current name, if its name has changed.
- (1) Contents of affidavit. The affidavit shall include the study area code (SAC) number associated with the company. The affidavit shall be sworn and notarized and shall be executed by an authorized corporate officer. The affidavit shall certify that the carrier has used all federal high-cost support provided in the preceding calendar year and will use the all federal high-cost support provided to the carrier receives in the coming calendar year received pursuant to 47 CFR Subchapter B, Part 54, Subparts D and, K, L, and M, as defined in 47 CFR § 54.5, only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. In addition, the affidavit shall certify that the carrier has complied with and will continue to comply with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules, certify that the carrier has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure

functionality without an external power source, certify that the carrier is offering a local usage plan comparable to that offered by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the relevant service areas, and certify that the carrier acknowledges that the FCC may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible carrier is providing equal access within the ETC's designated service area. The affidavit shall also certify to the following: as an eligible telecommunications carrier, the carrier agrees to provide timely responses to board requests for information related to the status of local voice service markets or facilities.

- (2) Certifications subject to complaint or investigation. Any certification filed by a carrier shall be subject to complaint or investigation by the board.
- (3) State certification of eligibility. An ETC's certification shall be the basis of the board's certification to the FCC and USAC pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.314 that the ETC has used and will use the support for the purposes intended.
- d. Progress reports and extensions on previously filed two-year network improvement and maintenance plans. In addition to any network improvement plans and associated progress reports required by 47 CFR § 54.313, competitive ETCs whose universal service support is being phased down must file with the board progress reports and extensions on previously filed two-year network improvement and maintenance plans during the phase-down period. Each competitive ETC subject to this requirement shall file a rolling one-year extension and a progress report on its network improvement and maintenance plan detailing the prior calendar year's activities. The progress report shall include coverage area maps detailing progress toward plan targets, an explanation of how much universal service support was received, and how the support was used to improve signal quality, coverage, or capacity. If support was used for something other than improving signal quality, coverage, or capacity, the report shall include an explanation of how the support was used. The report shall identify any network improvement targets that have not been met and shall include an explanation of why targets were not met. The report shall indicate if there have not been any changes to the ETC's coverage area and shall include an explanation of why no changes were made. Any reporting of expense and investment information shall include an explanation of how the expenses and investments benefited specific wire centers in the ETC's designated service area. For purposes of this paragraph, "wire center" shall be defined as determined by the North American numbering plan administrator.
- e. d. Filing instructions for annual report filings. FCC Form 481 (including rate floor data filed pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.313(h)), the affidavit certifying compliance, any required network improvement plan progress report and extension, and FCC Form 690 shall be filed using the board's electronic filing system in accordance with 199—Chapter 14, unless the board directs otherwise by order issued in advance of the filing deadline. The filing shall be titled "Annual Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Reporting Requirements," with a reference to the year for which the report is filed. The document title for the FCC form shall be "FCC Form 481 Filing" or "FCC Form 690 Filing," as appropriate. The document title for any required network improvement plan report shall be "Network Improvement Plan Report." The board's records and information center will assign each filing an FER docket number, signifying "Federal ETC Report," and indicating the year of filing and the carrier's company number.
  - f. e. Confidential information.
- (1) Requests to withhold from public inspection network improvement and maintenance plan extensions and progress reports, financial reports, and loop or line count data included in the rate floor data reports included in the annual report filings will be deemed granted as provided in 199—paragraph 1.9(5)"c."
- (2) If a carrier considers other information filed on or with FCC Form 481 to be confidential, the carrier shall file both a public version and a confidential version of the material pursuant to 199—14.12(17A,476), and a separate request for confidential treatment pursuant to 199—1.9(22) and Iowa Code section 22.7. Where a request for confidential treatment of information filed on or with

FCC Form 481 is based on a protective order issued by the FCC, the carrier's request for confidential treatment shall include a reference to the relevant protective order.

**39.7(4)** No change.

ITEM 8. Amend subrule 39.8(1) as follows:

**39.8(1)** The board may permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give 90 30 days' advance notice to the board of such relinquishment, as provided in subrule 39.3(3). A carrier that is granted ETC status in connection with a Connect America Fund Phase II auction or other similar conditional support mechanism shall, within 30 days of the date of the auction, file a notice of relinquishment of its designation for any service areas where the carrier is not the successful bidder and does not plan to offer service.